

deserves to be proud of our representative democracy and our hard-earned freedom. America will miss TOBY ROTH in this body and I hope for our country's sake that TOBY will return to Washington in the future to share with us his sage advice on those issues to which he holds so dear.

# HAPPY 50TH ANNIVERSARY; REALTOR ASSOCIATION OF BAY COUNTY

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 1, 1996*

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, honesty and integrity are elusive commodities in today's business world but are ever present in our hard-working realtors. Over the years I have had the privilege of working with many real estate agents, chief among them the very professional members of the Realtor Association of Bay County. I rise today to pay tribute to this association that, for half a century, has been dedicated to promoting ethics and caring in the business world. On October 19, at the Consistory Cathedral in Bay City, the Realtor Association will celebrate its 50th anniversary.

First chartered on July 9, 1946, the Realtor Association of Bay County is a professional association of real estate brokers and their agents. Originally created not only to protect and promote private ownership of real property, and establish professional standards of practice, the association has remained true to its original goals while expanding outreach into the community.

Through the years, the association has actively monitored State and Federal legislation regarding private property rights and has provided educational programs, keeping members informed on the numerous changes in the laws and creating forms necessary to comply with them. One such service, created in 1962 and computerized in 1972, is the Multiple Listing Service which assists members in their endeavor to list and sell properties for their clients and customers.

The Realtor Association of Bay County is a member of the world's largest trade association, the National Association of Realtors, which consists of over 750,000 members and the Michigan Association of Realtors, which consists of over 25,000 members.

With a membership that has grown to over 300, the association is involved in 12 diverse community service projects. Groups such as Junior Achievement, American Home Week, Women's Center, and Safety Through songs for Kindergartners have all benefited from their relationship with the Realtors Association.

Mr. Speaker, realtors adhere to a strict code of ethics and level of professional conduct that benefit us all. Couple that with their dedicated involvement to the community and you have an organization which exemplifies the professionalism and caring to which all business and business associations should aspire. Please join me in congratulating the Realtor Association of Bay County on its 50th anniversary, with best wishes for many more.

## LEGISLATION EXTENDING CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM CONTRACTS

HON. PAT ROBERTS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 1, 1996*

Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing legislation to restore to the Secretary of Agriculture the optional authority to extend existing Conservation Reserve Program [CRP] contracts. This action is necessitated by a provision contained in the 1997 agricultural appropriations law that rescinded that long-standing authority at a time when the Secretary is attempting to implement a revised CRP that currently does not have final regulations in place.

Contracts covering 24 million acres, or two-thirds of the existing enrolled acres, are scheduled to expire next September and must be considered for re-enrollment before that time. Congress devoted considerable time and resources during the farm bill to insuring the continuation of the CRP with its important conservation and environmental benefits. The administration was tasked with proposing new regulations for the CRP by early June of this year to give farmers sufficient time to understand the revised program and make decisions on their participation.

Unfortunately, USDA's proposed regulations did not appear until mid-September. The proposed changes are so massive and so many factors are still unknown, it is unlikely that farmers will have the final details well into next year. If the proposed changes are contained in the final rules, it is clear that many weeks of intensive work by USDA will be needed to apply the general rules to each individual farmer's land before the producer will know whether he is eligible and whether he wants to make a bid to enter the program.

It was the clear intent of Congress to give the producer the maximum flexibility in making the decision on whether or not to continue his land in the CRP. Farmers cannot sensibly make that decision until all the information is available to them. The slightest delay in USDA's schedule will create chaos on the farm with an arbitrary deadline forcing a decision for which the producer has insufficient information.

If this situation arises, which in the mind of this Member is a probability rather than a possibility, it is imperative that the Secretary of Agriculture retain the authority to extend existing contracts so that properly thoughtful decisions can be made that will affect farmers and our environment for a decade to come.

By eliminating the limitation on the Secretary's authority contained in this year's agricultural appropriations law, this bill will insure that USDA has the flexibility to implement the Conservation Reserve Program successfully and avoid a train wreck next August.

## A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO MY FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES

HON. G.V. (SONNY) MONTGOMERY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 1, 1996*

Mr. MONTGOMERY. Mr. Speaker, as I prepare to retire at the end of this Congress,

there are many people that I want to express my appreciation. I would like to take this opportunity to thank my colleagues for the great help and respect they have given me through out the years. In the recent months, they have made a special effort to tell me how much they enjoyed serving with me. My fellow Representatives wished me well in my future endeavors, and I do appreciate all the warm regards and kind thoughts.

Additionally, I owe the staffs on Capitol Hill my thanks. The staffers have given my office a great deal of help and assistance over the many years. Because of them, my job was made much easier.

Finally, a special thanks to all the different organizations that have honored me in the last few months: National Guard Association of the United States, Mississippi State University, the veterans organizations, the armed services YMCA, and the Mississippi Society, just to name a few, have given me receptions, dinners, and many wonderful memories.

Thank you all.

## TRIBUTES TO CONGRESSMEN JACOBS AND MYERS

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 1, 1996*

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I am inserting these statements into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. They were to be given as part of a Special Order for Congressman JACOBS and MYERS last week:

STATEMENT OF THE HONORABLE JOHN CONYERS, JR., PRAISING THE CAREER OF ANDREWS JACOBS, JR.

There have been a number of colleagues with whom I have become friends as well as legislators, but none as close to me as Andy Jacobs. On January 4, 1965, we began an intermittent association that makes me feel able to say that I have a dear friend leaving Congress.

Andy will be known and remembered for his unfailing ability to bring a smile to your face no matter what is happening in the Congress or in your life. He believes that a laugh can lift you, and I have come to believe it too. After all, he has practiced more jokes on me than perhaps any other member of the House within the course of our friendship.

Now that he is ending his legislative career, may I reflect upon several achievements that may not have been covered during the course of our discussion. The first is the Viet Nam War debates that were conceived by Representative Jacobs. He led the fight to end the war in 1969, in an all night session on the House floor. Andy's efforts led to the beginning of the end of the Viet Nam War.

The second matter is the Adam Clayton Powell Committee, to which then Speaker John McCormack appointed us both. Through his ability to persuade people, Andy was able to at least have a hearing that afforded then Chairman Powell a modicum of due process. He was skillful at it, and he was able to turn away some of the intense emotion that led many members to want to make short shrift of our jobs on the committee. But Jacobs predicted with a usual clarity that any attempt to ouster Chairman Powell would be rebuffed by a Supreme Court which would be reluctant to allow us to determine who should represent the people from a congressional district.